

Whereas, in 1985, Dith Pran was appointed a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

Whereas Dith Pran lost his battle with cancer on March 30, 2008, leaving behind a world that better understands the tragedy of the genocide in Cambodia and the need to prevent future genocides, largely due to his compelling story, reporting, and advocacy;

Whereas Dith Pran said, "Part of my life is saving life. I don't consider myself a politician or a hero. I'm a messenger. If Cambodia is to survive, she needs many voices."; and

Whereas the example of Dith Pran should endure for generations: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Dith Pran is a modern day hero and an exemplar of what it means to be a citizen of the United States and a citizen of the world;

(2) the United States owes a debt of gratitude to Dith Pran for his tireless work to prevent genocide and violations of fundamental human rights; and

(3) teachers throughout the United States should spread Dith Pran's message by educating their students about his life, the genocide in Cambodia, and the collective responsibility of all people to prevent modern-day atrocities and human rights abuses.

REGARDING THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 533 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 533) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the political situation in Zimbabwe.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 533) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 533

Whereas, on March 29, 2008, parliamentary and presidential elections were held in Zimbabwe amid widespread reports of voting irregularities in favor of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) party and President Robert Mugabe, including, according to the Department of State, "production of far more ballots than there were registered voters...[and] the allowance of police in polling places";

Whereas official results showed that the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) won a majority of seats in the parliamentary elections, and independent monitors concluded based on initially posted results that MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai re-

ceived substantially more votes than President Mugabe in the presidential election;

Whereas, as of April 24, 2008, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has still not released the results of the presidential election, despite calls to do so by the African Union (AU), the European Union, the Government of South Africa, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, and the United States;

Whereas, on April 19, 2008, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission officially commenced recounting ballots cast in 23 parliamentary constituencies, primarily in districts that did not support candidates affiliated with ZANU-PF;

Whereas, on April 21, 2008, British Foreign Secretary David Miliband stated that the ongoing recount was potentially a "charade of democracy" that "only serves to fuel suspicion that President Mugabe is seeking to reverse the results that have been published, to regain a majority in parliament, and to amplify his own count in the presidential election," and accused him of trying "to steal the election";

Whereas, the Government of Zimbabwe has arrested numerous members of the media and election officials, and over 1,000 Zimbabweans have reportedly been fleeing into South Africa every day, while forces loyal to the government have engaged in a brutal and systematic effort to intimidate voters;

Whereas, on April 20, 2008, the MDC released a detailed report showing that more than 400 of its supporters had been arrested, 500 had been attacked, 10 had been killed, and 3,000 families had been displaced, and Human Rights Watch reported on April 19, 2008, that ZANU-PF is operating "torture camps" where opposition supporters are being beaten;

Whereas United States Ambassador to the United Nations Zalmay Khalilzad stated on April 16, 2008, that he was "gravely concerned about the escalating politically motivated violence perpetrated by security forces and ruling party militias";

Whereas, while there is currently no international embargo on arms transfers to Zimbabwe, a Chinese ship carrying weapons destined for Zimbabwe was recently prevented from unloading its cargo in Durban, South Africa, and has been denied access to other ports in the region due to concerns that the weapons could further destabilize the situation in Zimbabwe;

Whereas Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stated on April 17, 2008, that President Mugabe has "done more harm to his country than would have been imaginable...the last years have been really an abomination..." and called for the AU and SADC to play a greater role in resolving the crisis;

Whereas, the Department of State's 2007 Country Report on Human Rights Practices stated that, in Zimbabwe, "the ruling party's dominant control and manipulation of the political process through intimidation and corruption effectively negated the right of citizens to change their government. Unlawful killings and politically motivated abductions occurred. State sanctioned use of excessive force increased, and security forces tortured members of the opposition, student leaders, and civil society activists"; and

Whereas annual inflation in Zimbabwe is reportedly running over 150,000 percent, unemployment stands at over 80 percent, hunger affects over 4,000,000 people, and an estimated 3,500 people die each week from hunger, disease, and other causes related to extremely poor living conditions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate—

(1) to support the people of Zimbabwe, who have been subjected to incredible hardships, including violence, political repression, and severe economic deprivation, in their aspirations for a free, democratic, and more prosperous future;

(2) to call for an immediate cessation of politically motivated violence, detentions, and efforts to intimidate the people of Zimbabwe perpetrated by Zimbabwe's security forces and militias loyal to ZANU-PF;

(3) that the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission should immediately release the legitimate results of the presidential election and ratify the previously announced results of the parliamentary elections;

(4) that President Robert Mugabe should accept the will of the people of Zimbabwe in order to effect a timely and peaceful transition to genuine democratic rule;

(5) that regional organizations, including SADC and the AU, should play a sustained and active role in resolving the crisis peacefully and in a manner that respects the will of the people of Zimbabwe;

(6) that the United Nations Security Council should be seized of the issue of Zimbabwe, support efforts to bring about a peaceful resolution of the crisis that respects the will of the people of Zimbabwe, and impose an international arms embargo on Zimbabwe until a legitimate democratic government has taken power;

(7) that the United States Government and the international community should impose targeted sanctions against additional individuals in the Government of Zimbabwe and state security services and militias in Zimbabwe who are responsible for human rights abuses and interference in the legitimate conduct of the elections in Zimbabwe; and

(8) that the United States Government and the international community should work together to prepare a comprehensive economic and political recovery package for Zimbabwe in the event that a genuinely democratic government is formed and commits to implementing key constitutional, economic, and political reforms.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2008

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, April 30; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 2881, the FAA reauthorization bill, with Senator DURBIN recognized to offer an amendment; that at 10:40 a.m., the Senate recess until 12 noon for the joint meeting of Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, as a reminder, at 11 a.m. tomorrow, there will be a joint meeting of Congress with the Prime Minister of Ireland, Bertie Ahern. Senators attending the meeting should gather in the Senate Chamber at 10:30 a.m. and proceed as a body to the Hall of the House at 10:40 a.m.